



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 02100.0082.00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Timothy M. JOHNS et al.

Application Serial No.: 10/781,629

Filed: February 20, 2004

For: LIFTING SYSTEMS AND  
METHODS FOR USE WITH A  
HITCH MECHANISM

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Group Art Unit: 3611

Examiner: Yeagley, Daniel S.

Confirmation No.: 4131

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination, and fulfills the requirements for a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and is in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 5, 2006, the period for reply to which has been extended through January 5, 2007, by a Petition for Extension of Time of three-months filed concurrently herewith and with the requisite fee payment, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 20 of this paper.